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Reprint of the Paris edition of 1862. In French .....US$ 25.00

SCHLUMBERGER: *Numismatique de l'Orient Latin.* A detailed historical survey of "crusaders' coinage." Reprint of the Paris edition of 1878 and of the supplementary volume with alphabetical index, Paris 1882. In French US$ 44.50

IMPORTANT

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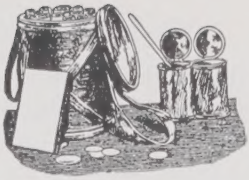
From the Editor's Desk



The architects who designed the Hagia Sophia attempted to create an interior which would give the worshipper the impression that the vaulted roof of the church opened into heaven itself. So successful were they that even today in this more materialistic age, the mere privilege of standing within this magnificent building is one of the most awe inspiring events which can occur in a lifetime.

It sometimes comes as a surprise to Western man that the Gothic cathedral is not without peer and that during the time when our own forebears were living an existence little better than that of their neolithic ancestors, a glittering civilization was coeval with them.

It is high time that the Byzantines become more familiar to us whose roots are in Western Europe. It is in fact, utterly inexplicable that the East Roman Empire should be so long ignored. It is they who preserved much of the heritage of classical antiquity: most important it was they who preserved and passed on to modern man that magnificent structure, that supreme accomplishment by which all others pale, the corpus of Roman law. Perhaps this neglect is an expression of buried guilt for it was not the barbarian hordes from the Asian steppes, but rather the barbarian hordes from Frankistan which under the Aegis of the church and in the name of their god, sacked Constantinople in 1204 and destroyed more documents and artifacts of antiquity than all the barbarians who had come before.

Byzantium was a molding of two culture patterns, the Hellenistic Greek and the Roman. This cultural synthesis was further characterized by its religious nature which was Christian and thus, in that sense, differed from the Graeco-Roman roots from which it had sprung.

The Byzantine Empire occupied that area which had been the Eastern portion of the Roman Empire. Its history and tradition were continuous — its inhabitants thought of themselves as Romans. It is not possible to state with any certainty precisely when the Eastern Empire was blended into that entity which we know as the Byzantine state, though most historians seem to prefer the reign of Justinian (527-565).

Suffice it for us to recognize that the cultural heir to Greece and Rome maintained a complex and wealthy civiliza-

tion during the very time when Western Europe was in the throes of the Dark Ages. Moreover, this civilization endured for over a millenium and we can little afford to ignore either Byzantium or its contribution to human society.

Historians have been forced to recognize that the Roman Empire in the West did not come crashing down, but like the Arab, folded its tent so silently, and crept away so elusively that it is impossible to state exactly when it ceased to be. These same historians have been forced to recognize that the unity of the Mediterranean world did not suddenly shatter; that a study and understanding of Western Europe after the Barbarian invasions must include a study of the East which indeed furnished the money and cultural impetus for the lagging westerners.

Very simply stated, the historian has had to adopt the "world" view — it is now time for the numismatist to do the same.

Byzantine coins do not achieve the high artistic style of their Greek predecessors, nor do they have the pressing historical importance of the Greek Imperials. They do, however, command our attention and study.

On stylistic grounds, it is possible for the numismatist to trace the evolution of the synthesis of Graeco-Romanism which we call Byzantine. On those same grounds, it is possible to tell the amount of influence exerted by Byzantium on the West, the duration of that influence and the time it ended.

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BYZANTIUM AND NUMISMATICS

An Annotated Select Bibliography

by ALOISIUS BAROZZI

The bibliography which follows is intended to help first the numismatist seeking a reference list of books for the study of phases of Byzantine civilization other than numismatics and conversely, for the student of history and art who wishes to expand his studies into the rich and promising field of Byzantine numismatics.

It has been our aim to prepare a bibliography containing all of the basic reference books useful to the groups described above and to supply information on further bibliographical material for those who wish to go beyond the elementary reading given here.

The first part of the bibliography is called *The Byzantine World* and is subdivided into five units: *A*1-Basic handbooks and bibliographical aids, *A*2-Reference histories, *A*3-Reference histories on the Latin Conquest and the minor Byzantine Empires and Despotes, *A*4-Byzantine art, architecture, sigillography, literature, etc. and *A*5-Other books on the Byzantine Empire which are in print in the United States.

The second part is called *BYZANTINE NUMISMATICS* and is also subdivided into five units: *B*1-Bibliographical aids, *B*2-Introductions. *B*3-Basic references. 4-General Numismatic references, and *B*5-Numismatic books in print in the US.

The prices of certain books which are in print have been included. For books and articles where no price is given, consult your library or seek a Xerox copy or microfilm from a university library. Your librarian can assist you in locating the desired material through Interlibrary Loan. For articles in European journals see the *Union List of Periodicals* which shows which libraries in your state subscribe to each publication.

A. THE BYZANTINE WORLD

A1 — BASIC HANDBOOKS AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL AIDS

DIEHL, CHARLES. *Byzantium: Greatness and Decline.* With Introduction and Bibliography by Peter Charanis. Rutgers U. Press. 1957. $8.50

The best of the available short handbooks on Byzantine history and civilization. The bibliography (pp. 301-357) is an invaluable help for further study and is the most systematic and up-to-date work available for English language references. Highly recommended.

DOELGER, F. and SCHNEIDER, A.M., *Byzanz*, Bern 1952

A good bibliographical record of articles and books on Byzantium published from 1938-1950.

BAYNES, NORMAN H. and H. ST. L. B. MOSS, *ed.*, *Byzantium: An Introduction to East Roman Civilization*, Oxford 1948. Pb. $2.25

A valuable introductory handbook compiled from special treatises written by a number of highly specialized scholars. Especially important to the numismatist are *The Economic Life of the Byzantine Empire* and *Public Finances: Currency, Public Expenditure, Budget, Public Revenue* by A. M. Andreades. The Bibliographical Appendix (pp. 396-436) is of value, but lacks the books and articles published from 1949 to 1957. These are recorded by Charanis (above), however.

MORAVCSIK, G. BYZANTINOTURCICA (2nd ed.) 2 vols., Budapest 1957

The most excellent bibliographical guide to the Byzantine historians, their manuscripts, editions and studies of their works. Used by all scholars as the first reference for their research.

BARKER, ERNEST, ed. and tr., *Social and Political Thought in Byzantium, from Justinian I to the Last Palaeologus: Passages from Byzantine Writers and Documents*, Oxford 1957. $5.60

The only book available to acquaint the numismatist with some of the texts of writers, scholars and official documents of the Byzantine era. A valuable book with references to what Byzantine literature is available in English translation.

RUNCIMAN, STEVEN, *Byzantine Civilization*, Meridian, New York. Pb. $1.45

A readable and informative little book useful for a first glance at the Byzantine Empire.

BAYNES, N. H., *Byzantine Empire*, Oxford 1926. $1.70

TALBOT RICE, DAVID, *The Byzantines*, Praeger, New York 1962. $7.50

GRUMEL, V., *La Chronologie* (Bibliothêque Byzantine: Traités d'Etudes Byzantines, vol. 1) Paris 1958. Although of importance to historians this book is of great value for the study of any aspect of Byzantine civilization. Its dates and chronologies are of special interest to the research numismatist. Valuable references and bibliography.

AMANTOS, CONSTANTINE, *Prolegomena to the History of the Byzantine Empire* transl. by Kenneth Johnstone (to be published by Argonaut, Inc. in 1966)

This book is a translation of one of the most important works of the well known Modern Greek Byzantinologist. It gives a historical background of Hellenistic and Roman history necessary to the understanding of how the Eastern Roman Empire gradually lost its Roman character and revived the Hellenistic tradition in the medieval Christian world.

A2 — Reference Histories

The Cambridge Medieval History. Vol. IV. The Eastern Roman Empire (717-1453). Cambridge 1923 (New edition in press). (Expected October 1965)

A good reference work. Rich bibliographies accompany each chapter, but they include only works published prior to 1923. The user should consult the works of Vasiliev and Ostrogorsky (see below) for works published from 1923 to 1957, many of which are basic to any study of Byzantium. The volume covers the history of the period from Leo III 'the Isaurian' (717-741) to the fall of Constantinople. For the emperors from Constantine to Theodosius III, consult volumes I and II of the *CMH*.

OSTROGORSKY, GEORGE, *History of the Byzantine State*, trans. by J. Hussey, Rutgers U. Press 1957. $12.50

The main reference for the numismatist and scholar. The introduction gives the best available record of the development of Byzantine studies (pp. 1-20) and the chapter bibliographies and footnotes are most reliable for futher reference. With Diehl's new edition (also published by Rutgers), Ostrogorsky's *History* is a must for the library of everyone dealing with Byzantium.

VASILIEV, ALEXANDER A., *History of the Byzantine Empire*, 2nd English ed., 2 vols. U. of Wisconsin Press 1964. Pb. $1.95 ea.

A fine work by one of the most esteemed modern historians of the Byzantine period. A good reference, but cannot compare with Ostrogorsky. The original edition dates back to 1928 with revisions in 1932, 1945 and 1952. The 1964 edition is an exact reprint of the last revision. Translated into almost every European language, Vasiliev's work is the most readily available book on Byzantium all over the world.

BURY, J. B., *History of the Later Roman Empire from the Death of Theodosius I to the Death of Justinian*, 2 vols. Peter Smith, Mass. and Dover, New York 1957. $4.00 hardcover, $2.00 ea. pb.

For anyone interested in the history of the period from Arcadius (395-408) to the death of Justinian (565), this is the most extensive and valid historical treatment by one of the best modern historians. Some of the information from this book is summarized in the reference works cited above.

LOT, FERDINAND, *The End of the Ancient World and the Beginnings of the Middle Ages. With an Introduction by Glanville Downey*. Harper Torchbooks, New York 1961. $2.75

The French original was published in 1927 and not translated into English until 1931. Downey's new introduction and additional notes have revived this classic which bridges the gap between pre-medieval Europe and Byzantium in an admirable way. In its present form the book is valuable for the numisma-

tist and student seeking knowledge of the period from 300 to 753 A.D. and the relations between Rome, the barbarian invasions, Byzantium and medieval Europe. The bibliographies are valuable guides for further research. Highly recommended.

GIBBON, EDWARD, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire,* 3 vols. Modern Library, New York. $3.95 each.

A classic, by a brilliant and enlightened historian of the nineteenth century, excellent as a text to read, but no longer able to serve today's reference requirements. Gibbon's epic now belongs to the history of history and is a text to be read for literary value. It's "popular editions" and "abridgements" will not suffice, so we recommend the above edition in which the complete text is given with footnotes and comments still valuable for historical reading.

A3 — REFERENCE HISTORIES FOR THE LATIN CONQUEST AND THE MINOR BYZANTINE EMPIRES AND DESPOTATES

MILLER, WILLIAM, *The Latins in the Levant. A History of Frankish Greece 1204-1556.* London 1908. Rp. New York 1964. $12.50.

An excellent work still unique and valid 56 years after its first publication. Miller also wrote the chapter for this period in the Cambridge Medieval History, IV, pp. 432-477 as well as the bibliography (pp. 852-866) which should still be consulted until the new edition is issued. The same author's *Essays on the Latin Orient,* Cambridge 1921 is also valuable.

Crusaders as Conquerors, The Chronicle of Morea. Translated from the Greek by H. E. LURIER. Columbia U. Press, New York 1964.

Lurier's introduction (pp. 1-32) and the select bibliography (pp. 327-334) are valuable aids to the student of this period.

GARDNER, ALICE, *The Lascarids of Nicaea. The Story of an Empire in Exile.* London 1912. Reprinted 1964.

The basic reference work for the history of the Empire of Nicaea, 1204-1261. Also see W. Miller in CMH, IV, pp. 478-516.

MILLER, WILLIAM, *Trebizond: The Last Greek Empire.* London 1926.

The reference book for the history of the empire of the Great Comnenes 1204-1461.

NICOL, DONALD M., *The Despotate of Epirus.* Oxford 1957.

A good account of the Despotate of Epirus (1205-1214) and the Empire of Thessalonica (1222-1246).

ZAKYTHINOS, D. A., *Le Despotat grec de Moreé.* Vol. 1, Paris 1932. Vol. II, Athens 1953.

The unique reference on the subject. Excellent and valuable.

Duchy of Neopatras and Thessaly (Great Wallachia) 1271-1318.

There is no special reference work on this subject. For the coinage see W. WROTH, *Coins of the Vandals*, etc., p. lxxiv 227-228, 341.

GEANAKOPLOS, DENO JOHN, *Emperor Michael Palaeologus and the West, 1258-1282*, Harvard U. Press 1959. $7.50

———, *Greek Scholars in Venice*, Harvard U. Press 1962. $7.50

A4 — BYZANTINE ART, ARCHITECTURE, SIGILLOGRAPHY, LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY, ETC.

BECK, H. G., *Kirche und Theologische Literatur im Byzantinischen Reich.* Munich 1959.

BECKWITH, J., *The Art of Constantinople.* London 1961.

DALTON, O. M., *Byzantine Art and Archaeology.* Oxford 1911 (Rp. New York 1964) $8.50

GRABAR, A., *Byzantine Painting.* Geneva 1953

HAMILTON, J. A., *Byzantine Architecture and Decoration.* London 1926

KOUKOULES, PHAIDON, *Byzantinon Vios kai Politismos* (Life and Civilization of the Byzantines) 8 Vols. Athens 1947-1952. A monumental work on the public and private lives of the Byzantines. Of unique reference value, but . . . written in modern Greek.

KRUMBACHER, K., *Geschichte der byzantinischen Litteratur von Justinian bis zum ende des oestromischen Reiches.* 527-1453. 2nd ed. Munich 1897

LAMBROS, SPYRIDON, *Leukoma Byzantinon Autokratoron* (Album of Byzantine Emperors). Athens 1930. (23 pp. of text. 97 plates. Folio)

A unique and very rare, almost unknown, work in which the most important known portraits and representations from sculpture, painting, manuscript drawings, mosaics, coins, seals, ivories, etc. have been collected of all the Byzantine emperors. Introduction and captions are in modern Greek.

SCHLUMBERGER, G., CHALANDON, F., BLANCHET, A., *Sigillographie de l'Orient Latin.* Paris 1943.

A valuable reference work for the seals of the Crusaders and the minor Byzantine states.

TALBOT RICE, D., *The Art of Byzantium.* London 1959

———, *Art of the Byzantine Era.* Paris 1949

TATAKIS, B., *La philosophie byzantine.* Paris 1949

A5 — Some Other Books on the Byzantine Empire in Print in the U.S.

BRYON, ROBERT, *Byzantine Achievement*, Russell, New York 1964. $8.50

CHUBB, THOMAS C., *The Byzantines*. World Pub., New York 1959. $3.50

DIEHL, CHARLES, *Byzantine Empresses*. Knopf, New York 1963. $5.95

———, *Etudes Byzantines*, B. Franklin, New York. $18.50

———, *Justinien et la civilization byzantine au VIe siècle*, 2 vols. B. Franklin, New York. $28.50

———, *L'Afrique Byzantine*, 2 vols. B. Franklin, New York. $32.50

GAY, JULES, *L'Italie meridionale et l'empire byzantin depuis l'avenement de Basile I jusqu'a la prise de Bari par les Normands*. 867-1071 A.D., 2 vols. B. Franklin, New York. $28.00

GORDON, C. D., *Age of Attila:Fifth-Century Byzantium and the Barbarians*. U. of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor 1960. $3.95

GUERDAN, RENE, *Byzantium*, Putman, New York 1962. Pb. $1.45

HARTMANN, LUDWIG M., *Untersuchungen zur Geschichte des byzantinischen Verwaltung italien*. B. Franklin, New York 1964. $14.50

HUSSEY, JOAN M., *Byzantine World*. Harper, New York 1963. Pb. $1.45

———, *Church and Learning in the Byzantine Empire*, Russell. New York 1963. $7.50

LAMB, HAROLD, *Constantinople: Birth of an Empire*. Knopf. New York 1957. $5.95

LEMERLE, PAUL, *History of Byzantium*, Walker, New York 1963. $3.50

LINDSEY, JACK, *Byzantium into Europe*. Humanities Press, New York. $7.50

NORDEN, WALTER, *Das Papsttum und Byzanz*. 1903. Rp. B. Franklin, New York. $25.00

RAMBAUD, ALFRED, *L'Empire Grec au Ve siécle*. 1870. Rp. B. Franklin, New York. $25.00

REGEL, VASILII, ed., *Analecta byzantino-russica*. 1891-1898. Rp. B. Franklin, New York. $23.50

RUNCIMAN, STEVEN, *Eastern Schism*. Oxford 1955. $3.40

———, *Fall of Constantinople, 1453*, Cambridge 1965. $6.95

B. BYZANTINE NUMISMATICS

B1 — Bibliographical Aids

CLAIN-STEFANELLI, ELVIRA. *Select Numismatic Bibliography*. New York 1965.

LAURENT, V., "Bulletin de Numismatique Byzantine," in *Revue des Etudes Byzantines* 9, 1951, p. 192-251 (per. 1940-49)

UNESCO, "*Dix années d'études byzantines.*" *Bibliographie internationale* 1939-1948. Paris 1949.

The best international record of articles, catalogues, books and pamphlets on Byzantine numismatics appears annually in *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* which has been published continuously since 1892. A valuable index exists for the first 12 volumes (Rp. N. Y. 1964), but for volumes 13 to 58 (1965), each one must be searched individually.

Bibliographical notes and book reviews appear annually in seven other journals devoted to the study of Byzantium and the Mediaeval world. Only one is printed in the United States: *Speculum* (1925 —). Others are *Byzantinoslavica* (1929 —) from Czechoslovakia, *Revue des Etudes Byzantines* (1943 —) from France, *Byzantion* (1924 —) from Belgium, *Epeteris Etaireias Byzantinon Spoudon* (1924 —) from Greece, *Jahrbuch der Osterreichischen Byzantinischen Gessellschaft* (1951 —) from Austria, and *Vizantijkij Vremennik* (1894 —) from U.S.S.R.

B2 — Introductions

WROTH, WARWICK, "Introduction" in the first volume of *Catalogue of the Imperial Byzantine Coins in the British Museum.* (112 pp.)

This is the most comprehensive and valuable work of its kind available in the English language. The chapter titles are as follows: Extent and Arrangement of Byzantine Coinage; Historical and Numismatic Summary; Denominations and Weights; Types, Art and Portraiture; Imperial Mints; Inscriptions and Dates.

A better understanding of this introduction may be derived from its companion piece by the same author which appears as the introduction to the *Catalogue of Coins of the Vandals, Ostrogoths and Lombards and of the Emperors of Thessalonica, Nicaea and Trebizond* (pp. lxix-lxxvii).

LHOTKA, J. G., "Introduction to East Roman Coinage. Pt.1, Byzantium," *Numismatist* 67, 1954, pp. 4-20, 137-147, 453-464.

——, "Notes on Common Byzantine Bronze Coins," *Numismatist* 70, 1957. (Repr. in *Selections from the Numismatist* Vol. III, pp. 124-142)

LONGHET, HENRY, *Introduction à la Numismatique Byzantine.* (London Rp. 1961).

This book is in French and with the increased interest in Byzantine coins, ought to be translated at an early date. The author treats the coins as part of the cultural and artistic milieu of Byzantium and thus offers a more thorough and meaningful study of the coins than can be gained from mere perusals of the catalogues.

B3 — BASIC REFERENCES

Although the corpus of Byzantine coins has been better compiled than the general body of coins of mediaeval Europe, the collector must appreciate that no single handbook or catalogue is complete. There are still major problems of attribution arising for individual coins and there are always new coins not previously published coming to light. Nevertheless, the great bulk of the coins can be properly identified through the use of material which is available to the collector.

WROTH, WARWICK, *Catalogue of the Imperial Byzantine Coins in the British Museum,* 2 vols. London 1908.

These two volumes comprise the standard work to which most people refer. Unfortunately it is out of print and extremely rare and is difficult for the average collector to consult unless he has access to a library of an above average caliber.

Wroth considers Byzantine numismatics beginning with the coinage of the emperor Anastasius I (491-518) and closing with Constantine XI Paleologus (1448-1453). He does not include the coinage of the Latin Emperors of Constantinople (1204-1261) nor that of the Byzantine empires and despotates in these two volumes.

WROTH, WARWICK, *Catalogue of the Coins of the Vandals, Ostrogoths and Lombards and of the Empires of Thessalonica, Nicaea and Trebizond in the British Museum.* London 1911.

This volume is valuable because it contains the Imperial coins of Justinian I, Justin II, Tiberius II and Maurice Tiberius struck at Rome and Ravenna, and the quasi-autonomous coinages of Rome, Ravenna and Lucca. For the empires and despotates born after the sack of Constantinople by the Latins (1204), this catalogue is of unsurpassed value.

SCHLUMBERGER, GUSTAVE, *Numismatique de l'Orient Latin,* 2 vols. Paris 1878 (Rp. 1961 in 1 vol.).

The second section of numismatic material in this unique book (cf. *Voice of the Turtle* 4, 1965, p. 43) is the outstanding reference work for the coinage of the Latin Emperors of Constantinople, the Frankish princes, lords of Greece, etc.

SCHLUMBERGER, GUSTAVE, *Numismatique de l'Empire byzantin.* Paris 1884.

An excellent reference work, but rare and seldom available. This is a desirable book deserving to be reprinted.

GOODACRE, HUGH, *A Handbook of the Coinage of the Byzantine Empire*, 3 parts. 1928-1933. (Rp. 1957 in 1 vol.).

This is the collector's handbook of Byzantine coins. While it is by no means complete, it does illustrate coins by major types and permits identification of the majority of available coins. The current selling price, according to our advice, is about $16.00. Goodacre starts with Arcadius and ends with Constantine Palaeologus. In the reprint note 8 pages of new updating material.

RATTO, RODOLFO, *Monnaies byzantines et d'autres pays contemporaines à l'époque byzantine. Vente a Lugano,* December 1930. (Rp. 1959).

This sales catalogue contains 68 plates and is preferred by some collectors to Goodacre. Although the text is in French. the book is easy to use.

SABATIER, J., *Description génerale des monnaies byzantines.* 2 vols. Paris 1862 (Rp. 1965 in 1 vol.).

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RETOWSKI, O., *Die Munzen der Komnenen von Trapezunt.* Moscow 1910. A very rare monograph, but *the* reference for the coins of the empire of Trebizond. Wroth admits its value, but regrets the fact that, "it did not appear till the Trebizond section of the British Museum Catalogue was finished." It is a unique work, but its rarity makes it all but inaccessible for reference.

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B5 NUMISMATIC BOOKS IN PRINT IN THE U.S.

The best available list is published annually in a special book edition issue of *Coin World*. The current (fifth annual) list was published in the November 4, 1964 issue with a new list expected November 3, 1965 which will be the (sixth annual) *Numismatic Book List for* 1966.

Books on Byzantine coins and related subjects are listed under separate headings. Current prices are given for books in print with estimated prices for those out of print.

Numismatic Literature, the quarterly publication of the ANS ($1.00 per issue), is a valid helper in numismatic research. Each issue lists books and articles on numismatics published both in the United States and abroad, with helpful summaries and listings of their contents.

NOTES ON THE FOLLES OF BASIL I

by Michael Marx

Basil the Macedonian made his first appearance on the coinage of the Byzantine Empire in the final months of the reign of Michael III, the Drunkard. He had long been associated with Michael, first as Grand Chamberlain, and from May 866, as co-emperor. At Basil's instigation, Michael was assassinated on the 23rd of September 867 as he slept in a drunken stupor.

Basil was not a great soldier, nor was he a man of culture as many previous emperors had been. Rather, he was born of poor peasant parents and his family had been removed from Macedonia by the Bulgarians during the reign of King Krum. Basil acquired flexibility of mind and hardiness of body from the severe discipline which was suffered under the Bulgarians. At the age of 25 he escaped from slavery and made his way to Constantinople where he became a favorite of Michael III who elevated him to the office of Grand Chamberlain and subsequently to co-emperor.

Michael had ruled in name only through regents and ministers. The treasury left by his father had been spent foolishly on his favorites and otherwise wasted. Horseracing was Michael's consuming passion and he lavished absurd favors on the grooms and jockeys who were his intimates. With his companions he even mimicked the most sacred rites of the Church, and he was deserving, without question, of his epithet "the drunkard."

From the commencement of his reign Basil showed a markable talent for choosing his ministers and subordinates wisely, the keynote of his reign being revision and organization. He was wise enough to reorganize the national financial structure and to relieve the grievous burden of taxation. He also improved the Byzantine fleet and perhaps his most significant achievement was the planning of the *Basilica*, the continuation and memorial codification and revision of the laws of Justinian.

During the joint reign of Michael III and Basil I, several coins were issued. All were provincial except one bronze follis which was produced at the Constantinople mint.

IMPERIAL ISSUE

Bronze follis 866-867

Obverse: +MihAEL IMPERAT', bust of Michael, bearded, facing; wears crown with cross and robe of lozenge pattern; in right hand

holds globus surmounted by patriarchal cross; in left hand mappa. Reverses +bASILIUS REX*, bust of Basil, bearded, facing; wears crown with cross and robe of lozenge pattern; in right hand holds globus surmounted by patriarchal cross; in left hand mappa. This follis is listed in the British Museum Catalogue as No. 11 and in Goodacre as No. 12.

PROVINCIAL ISSUES

Gold Semis 866-867

Obverse: MIXAHA, bust of Michael, bearded, facing; wears crown with globus cr. and robe of lozenge pattern; right hand holds globus cr. Reverse: bACIΛEIOC bust of Basil, bearded, facing; wears crown with globus cr., and robes; in right hand globus cr. BMC 15, G 10. Obverse: MIXAHL bust of Michael, bearded, facing; wears crown with cross and robe of lozenge pattern; in right hand cross potent. Reverse: M, above which, cross; beneath Θ.BMC16. G 11.

CHERSON ISSUE 866-867

Small bronze

Obverse: MB

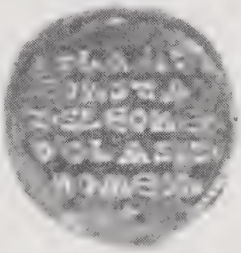
Reverse: ΠX G 13, BMC Vol. II, p. 434.

The coins of Basil I of the Imperial mint are neatly executed. We find for the first time the representation of the Saviour enthroned on the reverse of the solidus in this reign. During his reign Basil appears alone, with his son Constantine, with his sons Constantine and Leo VI and with his sons Leo VI and Alexander. It is interesting to note that no coins are known representing Basil with his first wife Maria, although he does appear with his second wife Eudocia Ingerina.

The coinage of Basil may be further studied in Wroth's *Imperial Byzantine Coins in the British Museum* and in *A Handbook of the Coinage of the Byzantine Empire* by Goodacre. Recently D. M. Metcalf has announced a work in progress on the folles of Basil I and he has already published a part of his research work on the subject in his book *Coinage in the Balkans*, pp. 29-33.

In addition to the coins described above, a few observations may be made concerning a large module follis of Basil I from the writer's collection (8.25 gm. - 29 mm). The obverse reads ✝LEON BASIL' CONST' AYGG'. In the center there is a half length figure of Basil I, bearded, facing. On the left is the shorter length figure of Leo VI, beardless, facing, and on the right, the half length figure of Constantine, beardless, facing, and of the same height as Leo. Both Minor figures are behind the prominent figure of Basil who wears a crown with a cross on which the horizontal bar is longer than the vertical one. Basil wears a lozenge-patterned robe.

Both Leo and Constantine wear crowns with crosses, and robes with mantles fastened on their left shoulders.



The reverse inscription reads: +bASIL'
COhSTAh
T'SLEOh Eh
Θ'o bASIL'
ROMEOh

The follis is of broad flan, 29 mm. This size coin is known only as having been issued during the reign of Theophilus (828-842) (BMC 27). The inscription visible on the reverse from the first striking (. . . bASIL') appears to be part of the legend used on the obverse of the broad flan issues of Theophilus (839-842), on which the half length figure of Theophilus appears alone with the inscription ΘEOFIL 'bASIL' (BMC 18-26).

This coin does not appear to belong to any of the varieties of the "Three bust" types described by D. M. Metcalf in his *Coinage in the Balkans 820-1355*, pages 29-33. I am inclined to believe that the specimen in my collection was originally found in Macedonia. The fact that Wroth has not published a coin of this type and that no similar specimen appears in Ratto's catalogue, nor, as far as I know, in any other discussion, makes this coin deserving of this publication in order to assist further research on the bronze folles of Basil I.

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BOOK REVIEWS

Metcalf, D.M. Coinage in the Balkans, 810-1355. Institute for Balkan Studies 1965. xx +286+16 plates. $8.00 (USA sole distributor Argonaut Inc., Publishers).

It is common knowledge to the student of Byzantine history and the collector and student of Byzantine numismatics that books on the coinage of Byzantium are the rarest titles of numismatic literature. It is true that a number of great scholars of this century have worked continuously in this neglected branch of numismatics, but the results of their studies are seldom readily available to those uninitiated in the methods of hunting special bibliographical references and sometimes the effort of finding and studying these works becomes too difficult even for the experienced since many of them are published in periodicals and journals which are not readily available in the average public or college library. The sad fact is that after the publication of Wroth's three fine volumes (1908-1911) and the useful handbook by Goodacre (Repr. 1957), we have no book in the English language which can be considered as of reference value for any aspect of Byzantine numismatics.

Metcalf's book is the first notable (and most welcome) oasis in the barren desert of Byzantine numismatics in a period of over 34 years. Like an unexpected spring for the thirsty traveller, his notable reference bibliography of articles on Byzantine and mediaeval Balkan numismatics gives the reader an immediate realization of what paths have been opened by research in the field since the publication of the British Museum Catalogues.

The Byzantine coinage of the period 820-1355 is examined for the first time as a phenomenon of creative influence and economic inspiration by the peoples and conquerors of the Balkan peninsula and especially the southern Slavs. Metcalf's analysis is not only original and brilliant, but also frank and blunt when the author faces the gaps in our knowledge which are due to a lack of interest and impulse toward research. Some sacred cows are slaughtered, mediaeval economic mythology which has been created for reasons other than historical has been hopelessly demolished and new paths in research have been opened on nearly every page.

For the monetary historian, the student of mediaeval Balkan history and economics and the numismatist interested in the coinage, provinces and trade routes of the Balkans, Metcalf's book is the most valuable reference in print. Special note must be taken of Part III where a number of important problems of mediaeval Balkan economics and numismatics are brilliantly discussed and documented with evidence not available anywhere else in the bibliography of the English language.

The fact that the author has used extensively the bibliography in southern Slav languages and, in more than one case, even unpublished hoards and numismatic sources on the history of the mediaeval Balkans, raises the instructive and reference value of the book to a level which only a few numismatic books ever reach. Aloisius Barozzi.

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Ratto: **Monnaies Byzantines,** 151 pp., 68 plates. A standard reference 17.50

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16. **John I,** 969-976, Follis, Christ/Insc. R 1920 VG 3.75
17. **John I,** 969-976, Follis, Christ/Insc. R 1931 BMC 23 VG 3.75
18. **John I,** 969-976, Follis, Christ/Insc. R 1923 BMC 11 VG 3.75
19. **John I,** 969-976, Follis, Christ/Insc. R 1923 BMC 11 Fine ... 4.00
20. **John I,** 969-976, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 26 VG 3.75
21. **Basil II,** 976-1025, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 12 VG 3.75
22. **Basil II,** 976-1025, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 22 Fine 4.00
23. **Basil II,** 976-1025, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 30 VG 3.75
24. **Basil II,** 976-1025, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 30 Fine 4.00
25. **Basil II,** 976-1025, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 37 R-1962 VG ... 3.75
26. **Romanus III,** 1028-1034, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 4 R 1974 VG 3.75
27. **Romanus III,** 1028-1034, Follis, Christ/Insc. BMC 4 R 1974 Fine 4.00
28. **Michael IV,** 1034-1041, Follis, Christ/Insc. & Cross. BMC 10 Fine 5.00

(Continued on p. 252)

29. **Constantine IX,** 1042-1055, Follis, Christ/Virgin BMC 20 R1991 G-9 VF 6.00
30. **Constantine IX,** 1042-1055, Follis, same as no. 29 Fine 5.00
31. **Theodora,** 1055-1056, Follis, Christ/NIKA, BMC 6, 1998 G-4 VG 4.50
32. **Michael VII,** 1071-1978, AU Nomisma, Michael/Christ VG .. 42.50
33. **Constantine X,** 1059-1067, AU Nomisma, Const./Christ F+ .. 55.00
34. **Manuel I,** 1143-1180, AE-Nomisma, Manuel/Christ BMC 46 R2127 VG 8.00
35. **Manuel I,** 1143-1180, AE-Nomisma, Manuel/Christ BMC type 2 ..... 1.50
36. **Alexius III,** 1295-1203, AE-Nomisma, Alex./Christ. R-2206 VG 2.50

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THE NUMISMATIC REVIEW

Vol. VI, No. 3, 1965

A Selection of Byzantine Gold Coins from our current issue.

C 42 **Leo I, 457-473.** Solidus, Helmeted bust facing holding spear over shoulder; I right in field. Rv Victory standing l., holding long cross; star r.; legend ends with O. Not in Ratto. E.F. ..... **$** 85.00

C 43 **Justinianus I, 527-565.** Tremissis. Armored and diademed bust r. Rv. Victory standing, holding crown and orb. Ratto 467; BMC 22; Tolstoi 48. Extremely fine 30.00

C 44 **Justinus II, 565-578. Solidus.** Helmeted bust facing. Rv. Constantinople seated, holding long long cross and orb. Extremely fine, choice 35.00

C 48 **Heraclius, 610-641.** Solidus. Helmeted bust facing, holding cross. Rv. Cross on three steps; legend ends with H. Not in Ratto; BMC 28. Rare. Extremely fine 60.00

C 49 **Heraclius and Heraclius Constantine, 613-630.** Solidus. Large bust of Heraclius and very small bust of his son. Rv. Cross on three steps; legend ends with IX. Ratto 1380, **as unique,** attributes this coin to **Rome,** or at least to an Italian mint (but not Ravenna). Not in BMC or Tolstoi. Extremely fine 115.00

C 55 **Constantine VIII Porphyroqennetus, 1025-1028.** Broad Solidus. Crowned bust facing. Rv. Bust of Christ. Ratto 1969; BMC 2. Choice very fine 95.00

This issue also contains a nice group of Byzantine Bronze coins.

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There were about 60 coins altogether but I have listed only those which I might recognize and printed in bold face those which would be almost unique.

Nero Claudius Druss C 8 VF+ repaired

Claudius C 85 XF silvery white (restrike)

Nero C 15 (like C20) XF large flan, yellowish tint (shellac?)

Vespasian C 232 F+

Titus, Domitian VG only, well centered coins but pitted

Trajan C 911 VF+ slight rim crack from strike

Hadrian VF, inexpertly cleaned by scratching (C 819?)

Sabina C 74 VF
Ant. Pius C 594 VF slight corrosion on Obv.
Faustina Sr. C 210 VF dark green patina
Faustina Jr. C 47 VF
Lucilla C 81 VF

Commodus C 331 VF

Pupienus C 28 F+ green patina, slightly cut off planchet
Otacilia Severa C 10 VF

Trajan Decius C 53 about 1/4" sq. hole in planchet on Rev.
Treb. Gallus C 26

If you have information concerning any of the above coins, please contact

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